



HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS
 CHAIR

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Commission ended the year 2012 by celebrating the tireless efforts of individuals who worked to increase diversity and fairness in the courts and the community. The 2012 Diversity Awards was a success in terms of recognizing and honoring those individuals and highlighting their contributions. We hope their efforts will encourage others to be vigilant and mindful of diversity and inclusion. We are grateful for their vision and leadership.

We also acknowledge that there are still communities and courts where diversity can be improved, particularly outside of New York City. We recognize the key is to improve the pipeline of individuals eligible and available to serve in those communities. This may require living and working in areas not generally populated by people of color. It starts with one person at a time.

Although Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick is retired from the Court of Appeals, we know that she will continue to make contributions to the legal system. We were among the numerous organizations that acknowledged her immense contributions as a trailblazer and presented her with the Outstanding Jurist Lifetime Achievement Award.

We have lost a great humanitarian in the untimely passing of Judge Theodore T. Jones. Judge Jones was a tireless warrior reaching out to increase diversity throughout the legal system. The Commission was honored to present Judge Jones with the first Humanitarian Award (posthumously). Judge Jones will be sorely missed.

In 2013, the Commission looks forward to partnering with court administrators and bar associations in an effort to increase the opportunities for people of color in managerial and judicial positions. It is by collaborating that we will generate practical solutions for a more diverse judiciary and legal community. ■

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ANNUAL MEETING WITH THE CHIEF JUDGE

On January 24, 2013, the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission met with Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman for its annual meeting. The meeting provides an opportunity to review the past year's accomplishments and discuss upcoming Commission initiatives with the Chief Judge and Chief Administrative Judge A. Gail Prudenti. Chief Judge Lippman and Chief Administrative Judge Prudenti have been continuously supportive of the Commission's mission and its events.



(LEFT TO RIGHT) KARLENE DENNIS, ESQ., HON. KATHIE DAVIDSON, LT. CLEMONT MACK, HON. YVONNE LEWIS, T. ANDREW BROWN, ESQ., BARRY CLARKE, ESQ., CHIEF JUDGE JONATHAN LIPPMAN, HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS (COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON), CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE A. GAIL PRUDENTI, LENORE KRAMER, ESQ., HON. DORIS LING-COHAN, ADRIENNE WILLIAMS, ESQ., NADINE JOHNSON, ESQ., HON. EDUARDO PADRO, LINDA DUNLAP-MILLER, HON. ROBERT E. TORRES, HON. ARIEL E. BELEN, JOYCE Y. HARTSFIELD

Meeting with Governor Cuomo's Counsel

On January 24, 2013, the Commission met with Governor Andrew Cuomo's counsel, Mylan Denerstein. Ms. Denerstein is the highest ranking woman in the Cuomo Administration. The meeting provided the opportunity to discuss diversity on judicial screening panels for the Appellate Divisions, the Court of Claims and the Nomination Committee for the Court of Appeals. The meeting was informative and allowed the Commission to understand the perspective of the Governor's office.



(LEFT TO RIGHT) (SEATED) HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS, GOVERNOR'S COUNSEL MYLAN DENERSTEIN, HON. EDUARDO PADRO, LENORE KRAMER, ESQ., NADINE JOHNSON, ESQ., (STANDING) LT. CLEMONT MACK, HON. DORIS LING-COHAN, LINDA DUNLAP-MILLER, HON. YVONNE LEWIS, ADRIENNE WILLIAMS, ESQ., KARLENE DENNIS, ESQ., HON. KATHIE DAVIDSON AND SANDRA RIVERA, ESQ.

2012 DIVERSITY AWARDS

On December 18, 2012, The Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission hosted the 2012 Diversity Awards at Brooklyn Law School, Forchelli Center, Feil Hall in Brooklyn, New York. The Diversity Awards honors individuals or organizations who work diligently to promote diversity in the judicial system or in the community. Professor Michael Cahill, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Brooklyn Law School, provided welcoming remarks on behalf of Dean Nicholas Allard.



2012 DIVERSITY AWARDS PLAQUES

The 2012 Diversity Award honorees were Vincent E. Doyle III, Esq., Past President of the New York State Bar Association, Connors and Vilardo LLP; Peter E. Quijano, Esq., Quijano & Ennis, P.C.; Anthony R. Ricco, Esq., Attorney at Law; and Kerron D. Norman, Vice President of Community Based Programs, ANDRUS. The Honorable Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick received the Outstanding Jurist Lifetime Achievement Award and the late Honorable Theodore T. Jones, Jr. received the Humanitarian Award posthumously.



HON. ARIEL BELEN, AWARDEES, PRESENTERS AND CHIEF JUDGE JONATHAN LIPPMAN



VINCENT E. DOYLE III AND HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS



VINCENT E. DOYLE III, HON. CARMEN BEAUCHAMP CIPARICK, ANTHONY L. RICCO, HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS, PETER E. QUIJANO, KERRON NORMAN, JOAN JONES, THEODORE T. JONES III, ESQ.



HON. GEORGE DANIELS, PETER E. QUIJANO, ESQ.



ANTHONY L. RICCO, ESQ.



HON. GEORGE DANIELS



HON. CARMEN BEAUCHAMP CIPARICK



PROFESSOR MICHAEL CAHILL, BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL



THEODORE T. JONES III, ESQ.

The event was attended by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman and Chief Administrative Judge A. Gail Prudenti who presented the award to Judge Jones' family and Judge Ciparick respectively.

The Commission had received nominations for many qualified candidates and the final selection was most difficult. Vincent E. Doyle III, Esq. was honored for the exceptional work he performed as past President of the New York State Bar Association from 2011 to 2012, encouraging diversity in each section of the Bar Association by establishing the "Diversity Challenge". Peter E. Quijano, Esq. and Anthony R. Ricco, Esq. were recognized for their commitment and dedication to promoting diversity by establishing the Lawyers Mentorship Program for the Criminal Justice Act Panel in the United States District Court Southern District of New York. Ms. Kerron Norman was honored for promoting equality and fairness for youth in the Westchester county juvenile justice system.

The Commission recognized Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick on her retirement as Senior Associate Judge of the New York Court of Appeals. It was most appropriate that she received the Outstanding Jurist Lifetime Achievement Award for the rich legacy she leaves the judiciary and the legal community.

Judge Jones was recognized not only as an exceptional jurist, but for his tireless advocacy for equality and diversity in the legal system, including his work on the New York State Justice Task Force and his travels around New York State to encourage interest in the legal field and promote diversity. The award was accepted by Judge Jones' wife, Joan Jones and their son, Theodore T. Jones, III, Esq.

This is the fourth Diversity Awards ceremony hosted by the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission. ■



CHIEF JUDGE JONATHAN LIPPMAN



HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI, HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS,
VINCENT E. DOYLE III, ESQ.



THEODORE T. JONES III, ESQ., JOAN JONES
AND HON. JONATHAN LIPPMAN



HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI AND
HON. CARMEN BEAUCHAMP CIPARICK



HON. KATHIE DAVIDSON AND
KERRON D. NORMAN

HON. ARIEL BELEN, LINDA DUNLAP-MILLER,
HON. GEORGE DANIELS, HON. DORIS LING-COHAN,
KARLENE DENNIS, ESQ., HON. ROBERT E. TORRES,
HON. LEWIS DOUGLASS, HON. YVONNE LEWIS,
HON. STEPHEN T. MILLER, HON. VANESSA BOGAN,
HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS, HON. RICHARD T. LOWE III,
NADINE C. JOHNSON, ESQ.,
BARRY CLARKE, ESQ., JOYCE Y. HARTSFIELD



2012 DIVERSITY AWARD RECIPIENTS



CARMEN BEAUCHAMP CIPARICK

Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick was born in New York City on New Year's Day in 1942. Reared in the Washington Heights community in New York, she received her undergraduate degree from Hunter College and, in 1967, was awarded a Juris Doctorate degree from St. John's University School of Law. Judge Ciparick's judicial career began in 1978, after Mayor Edward I. Koch appointed her Judge of the Criminal Court of the City of New York. In 1982, she was elected a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court. On December 1, 1993, Governor Mario M. Cuomo, announced the nomination of then Justice Ciparick for appointment to the Court of Appeals as the Court's first Hispanic member. The nomination was confirmed by the New York State Senate, and on January 4, 1994, she took office. She was reappointed by Governor Eliot Spitzer in November 2007 and served until December 2012, when she retired from the Court of Appeals.

Judge Ciparick is a former vice president and secretary of the Puerto Rican Bar Association, has served as a Trustee of Boricua College, as a member of the Executive Committee of the New York City Bar and as a member of the Board of Directors of the St. John's University School of Law Alumni Association.

Judge Ciparick has one daughter, Roseanne, son-in-law Frankie, and two grandchildren, Jacob and Joseph, who fill her life with joy.



THEODORE T. JONES, JR.

Theodore T. Jones, Jr., served as Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, prior to his death on November 5, 2012. He was born in Brooklyn and attended public schools in New York City. He graduated from Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia in 1965, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science. Judge Jones served active duty with the United States Army from 1967-1969. While in the service, he was stationed in the Republic of Vietnam, and attained the rank of Captain. He graduated from St. Johns University School of Law in 1972.

Judge Jones was elected to Supreme Court with a term beginning 1990. He presided over the Juvenile Offender Part which covered all cases involving Juvenile Offenders who were indicted in Kings County from September 1993 to December 1997. Jones sat in the civil term beginning 1998 and in January 2006 became the Administrative Judge of that term.

In January 2007, Justice Jones was nominated by newly-elected Governor Eliot Spitzer to the New York State Court of Appeals. After Senate confirmation in February, he was sworn in as an Associate Judge of the Court.

Judge Jones is survived by his wife of more than 40 years, Joan, and sons Wesley Jones, a software engineer, and Theodore T. Jones, III, Esq.



VINCENT E. DOYLE III

Vincent E. Doyle III, a partner with Connors & Vilardo, LLP, (Buffalo, New York), is the Immediate Past President of the New York State Bar Association. The 77,000-member Association is the largest and oldest voluntary state bar association in the country. Mr. Doyle served as President from June 2011 to June 2012.

During his term, Doyle focused on efforts to improve the quality and availability of legal services, particularly to vulnerable populations such as veterans, immigrants and poor people, and the Association's efforts to increase its own diversity and that of the legal profession as a whole. As a result of his initiative, the "NYSBA President's Section Diversity Challenge," the State Bar earned an American Bar Association Partnership Award for substantial and innovative efforts to advance diversity in the legal community.

Mr. Doyle received the 2012 Lawyer of the Year Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, and a Distinguished Alumni Award from the State University of New York at Buffalo Law School.

Mr. Doyle is a commercial litigator whose practice includes civil and white-collar criminal litigation, and representation of professionals in disciplinary proceedings. He also advises on legal ethics matters.



KERRON D. NORMAN

Kerron D. Norman, MSW is currently Vice President of Community Based Programs at ANDRUS. Ms. Norman's career in child welfare spans twenty years. She recently joined ANDRUS a leading provider and innovator of trauma informed services for children and families throughout Westchester County and the tri-state area. Ms. Norman oversees all of the service components of the Community and Mental Health Divisions.

Ms. Norman led Westchester County's Family Assessment Response (FAR) Model implementation in the Child Protective Services program. Her involvement led to a shared appreciation for the essential connection in the use of the FAR model to addressing and reducing disparities in child welfare services.

As a lead social worker for the Disproportionate Minority Representation reduction work in Westchester, Ms. Norman looked at ways to examine casework practice decisions, practices and policies that may be creating the overrepresentation of children of color in its systems and most importantly languishing in foster care.

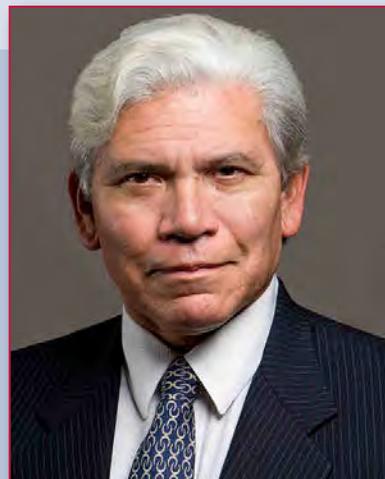
Ms. Norman holds a Master of Science degree from Columbia University Graduate School of Social Work and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Binghamton University.

PETER ENRIQUE QUIJANO

Peter Enrique Quijano is a partner at Quijano & Ennis, P.C. A litigator specializing in federal criminal defense and appeals, Mr. Quijano has tried more than 120 felony cases to verdict, and has briefed and argued numerous cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. Mr. Quijano has served as defense counsel in number of high profile cases, including U.S v. Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani and U.S. v. Lemrick Nelson - III.

Mr. Quijano is member of the Merit Selection Panel for Magistrate Judges for the Southern District of New York. As a creator and co-director of the Southern District of New York's Mentoring Program, the first such program in the nation, Mr. Quijano helps to train and prepare experienced state practitioners to be viable candidates for the federal Criminal Justice Act Panel.

Previously, he served in the Senior Trial Attorney Bureau of the Legal Aid Society of New York, Criminal Defense Division.



ANTHONY L. RICCO

Anthony L. Ricco specializes in state and federal criminal defense litigation, particularly capital defense litigation.

In 2008, Mr. Ricco was named The Attorney of the Year by the Metropolitan Black Bar Association. In 2008, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the American Inns of Court awarded Mr. Ricco its Professionalism Award. In October 2009, Mr. Ricco was appointed as a national resource counsel to the Federal Death Penalty Resource Counsel Project in Frankfort, Kentucky. In 2010, Mr. Ricco was accepted as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. In January 2012, The New York State Bar Association honored him with its Outstanding Criminal Defense Attorney Award.

During his career Mr. Ricco has handled numerous high profile and controversial cases, including, inter alia, the World Trade Center bombing conspiracy case; the U.S. Embassy Bombing case; counsel for Detective Gescard Isnora in the so-called Sean Bell case.

Mr. Ricco is a graduate of Adelphi University and Northeastern University School of Law. Mr. Ricco, who was born, raised and remained living in Harlem, is married and has two children; his daughter is a 2011 graduate of Loyola University School of Law and his son is a 2012 graduate of Penn State University.



23rd Annual Black History Month Program

On February 7, 2013, the 23rd annual program to commemorate Black History Month was held at the New York City Criminal Court in NYC. The program was planned by the Unified Court System's Black History Month Committee, co-sponsored by the Tribune Society, Inc. of the Courts in New York State and the Judicial Friends Association. The Honorable Lawrence K. Marks, First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts, provided opening remarks. This year, the Lifetime Achievement Award was bestowed upon the Honorable George Bundy Smith, retired Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals. The Tribune Society's Community Service Award was given to Ms. Cheryl Wills, anchor of television news program "NY 1", actress and author. Ms. Wills also provided the keynote address.



ABOVE: SEATED- KAREN GRIFFITH,
HON. GEORGE BUNDE SMITH, CHERYL WILLS,
STANDING - FRANK TROPEA,
ERNEST OWENS, BARRY CLARKE, ESQ.,
HON. ANTONIO BRANDVEEN, TA-TANISHA JAMES, ESQ.,
JOHN W. STUBBS III, JOSEPH PARRIS



LEFT: FIRST DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
LAWRENCE MARKS ADDRESSES THE ATTENDEES

OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
Franklin H. Williams
Judicial Commission on Minorities
25 Beaver Street, Room 861
New York, New York 10004

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EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH

On February 4, 2013, Karlene Dennis, associate counsel with the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission was a guest speaker for the L.O.V.E. Mentoring Program at the Young Women's Leadership School in Harlem, New York. The L.O.V.E. Mentoring Program which stands for "Latinas On the Verge of Excellence", was started by Executive Director, Claudia Espinosa, a graduate student at New York University, to encourage positive choices among young people.